



WWAMI

WWAMI is Idaho's regional medical education program, under the leadership and institutional mission of the **University of Idaho**, in partnership with the **University of Washington School of Medicine** (UWSOM). Idaho medical students spend the first year of their medical education on the campus of the **University of Idaho** in Moscow, study medicine on the campus of UWSOM in Seattle during their second year, and complete their third and fourth year clinical training at **regional medical sites in Boise, across Idaho**, or throughout the **WWAMI** (Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana, Idaho) region.

As the **medical education contract program for the State of Idaho** with the University of Washington, the **UI-WWAMI Medical Program** supports the Strategic Action Plan of its host university, the University of Idaho, while recognizing its obligation to the mission, goals, and objectives of its nationally accredited partner program, the UWSOM.

UWSOM and its partner WWAMI Medical Program in Idaho are dedicated to improving the general health and wellbeing of the public. In pursuit of our goals, we are committed

to **excellence in biomedical education, research, and health care**. The UWSOM and WWAMI are also dedicated to ethical conduct in all of our activities. As the **pre-eminent academic medical center in our region** and as a national leader in biomedical research, UWSOM places special emphasis on educating and training physicians, scientists, and allied health professionals **dedicated to two distinct missions**:

- **Meeting the health care and workforce needs of our region**, especially by recognizing the importance of **primary care** and providing service to **underserved populations**;
- **Advancing knowledge** and assuming leadership in the **biomedical sciences and in academic medicine**.

We acknowledge a **special responsibility to the people** in the states of Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana, and **Idaho**, who have joined in a unique regional partnership. UWSOM and WWAMI are **committed to building and sustaining a diverse academic community** of faculty, staff, fellows, residents, and students and **to assuring that access to education and training** is open to learners from all segments of society, acknowledging a **particular responsibility to the diverse populations within our region**.

UWSOM – Idaho WWAMI Medical Student Education Mission Statement

Our mission is to improve the health and wellbeing of people and communities throughout the WWAMI region, the nation, and the world through educating, training, and mentoring our students to be excellent physicians.

Vision for Medical Student Education

Our students will be highly competent, knowledgeable, caring, culturally sensitive, ethical, dedicated to service, and engaged in lifelong learning.

Goals for Medical Student Education

In support of our mission to educate physicians, our goals for medical student training are to:

1. Challenge students and faculty to achieve excellence;
2. Maintain a learner-centered curriculum that focuses on patient-centered care and that is innovative and responsive to changes in medical practice and healthcare needs;

3. Provide students with a strong foundation in science and medicine that prepares them for diverse roles and careers;
4. Advance patient care and improve health through discovery and application of new knowledge;
5. Teach, model, and promote:
 - a. the highest standards of professionalism, honor, and integrity, treating others with empathy, compassion, and respect;
 - b. a team approach to the practice of medicine, including individual responsibility and accountability, with respect for the contributions of all health professions and medical specialties;
 - c. the skills necessary to provide quality care in a culturally sensitive and linguistically appropriate manner;
6. Encourage students to maintain and model a balanced and healthy lifestyle;
7. Foster dedication to service, including caring for the underserved;
8. Engage students in healthcare delivery, public health, and research to strengthen their understanding of healthcare disparities and regional and global health issues; and
9. Provide leadership in medical education, research, and health policy for the benefit of those we serve regionally, nationally, and globally.

Alignment with the Idaho State Board of Education Strategic Plan
2009-2013

Goal I: Quality – Sustain and continuously improve the quality of medical education, training, research, and service.

Objective: Provide excellent first year medical education in biomedical and clinical sciences.

- *Performance measure:* pass rate on the U.S. Medical Licensing Examination, Step 1, taken during 2nd year of medical training.
- *Benchmark:* U.S. medical student pass rate.

Goal II: Access – Continuously improve access to medical education for individuals of diverse backgrounds, particularly the underserved in medicine.

Objective: Provide outreach activities that help recruit a strong medical student applicant pool for Idaho WWAMI.

- *Performance measure:* the number of Idaho WWAMI medical school applicants per year and the ratio of Idaho applicants per funded medical student seat.
- *Benchmark:* National ratio of state applicants to medical school per state-support seat.

Goal III: Efficiency and Outcomes – Deliver medical education, training, research, and service in a manner which makes efficient use of resources and contributes to the successful completion of our medical education program goals for Idaho.

Objective 1: Increase medical student interest in rural and primary care practice in Idaho.

- *Performance measure:* the number of WWAMI rural summer training placements in Idaho each year.
- *Benchmark:* 50% of class interested in rural training experiences following first year of medical education.

Objective 2: Maintain interest in primary care medicine for medical career choice.

- *Performance measure:* Percent of Idaho WWAMI graduates choosing primary care specialties for residency training each year.
- *Benchmark:* 50% of Idaho WWAMI graduating class chooses primary care residency training, in keeping with WWAMI mission.

Objective 3: Maintain a high rate of return for Idaho WWAMI graduate physicians who choose to practice medicine in Idaho, equal to or better than the national state return rate.

- *Performance measure:* Cumulative Idaho WWAMI return rate for graduates who practice medicine in Idaho.
- *Benchmark:* target rate – national average or better.

Objective 4: Maintain a high level Return on Investment (ROI) for all WWAMI graduates who return to practice medicine in Idaho.

- *Performance measure:* Ratio of any WWAMI graduates who return to practice medicine in Idaho, regardless of WWAMI origin, divided by the total number of Idaho medical student seats funded by the State.
- *Benchmark:* target ratio – 60%

Key External Factors (beyond the control of the Idaho WWAMI Medical Program):

Funding: the number of state-supported Idaho medical student seats each year is tied to State legislative appropriations. Availability of revenues and competing funding priorities may vary each year.

Medical Education Partnerships: as a distributed medical education model, the University of Idaho and the UWSOM WWAMI Medical Program rely on medical education partnership with local and regional physicians, clinics, hospitals, and other educational institutions in the delivery of medical training in Idaho. The availability of these groups to participate in a distributed model of medical education varies according to their own budget resources and competing demands on their time and staff each year.

Population Changes in Idaho: with a growing population and an aging physician workforce, the needs for doctors and medical education for Idaho's students only increases. Changes in population statistics in Idaho may affect applicant numbers to medical school, clinical care demands in local communities and hospitals, and availability of training physicians from year to year.